

**RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER****MAY 22 2006****FAX TRANSMISSION****DATE:** May 22, 2006**PTO IDENTIFIER:** Application Number 10/758071-Conf. #5108

Patent Number

**Inventor:** Masaru ODAJIMA et al.**MESSAGE TO:** US Patent and Trademark Office/MS AF**FAX NUMBER:** (571) 275-8300**FROM:** LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP

Anthony A. Laurentano/WEW

**PHONE:** (617) 227-7400**Attorney Dkt. #:** TOW-059**PAGES (Including Cover Sheet):** 10**CONTENTS:** Transmittal (1 page)  
Amendment/Reply (7 pages)  
Certificate of Transmission (1 page)

If your receipt of this transmission is in error, please notify this firm immediately by collect call to sender at (617) 227-7400 and send the original transmission to us by return mail at the address below.

This transmission is intended for the sole use of the individual and entity to whom it is addressed, and may contain information that is privileged, confidential and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. You are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or duplication of this transmission by someone other than the intended addressee or its designated agent is strictly prohibited.

**LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP**  
28 State Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02109  
Telephone: (617) 227-7400 Facsimile: (617) 742-4214

PTO/SB/97 (09-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2008. OMB 0851-0031

U. S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Application No. (if known): 10/758071

Attorney Docket No.: TOW-059

**Certificate of Transmission under 37 CFR 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

on May 22, 2006  
Date



Signature

Anthony A. Laurentano

Typed or printed name of person signing Certificate

38,220

Registration Number, if applicable

(617) 227-7400

Telephone Number

Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of transmission, or this certificate must identify each submitted paper.

Transmittal (1 page)

Amendment/Reply (7 pages)

**RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

**MAY 22 2006**

PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

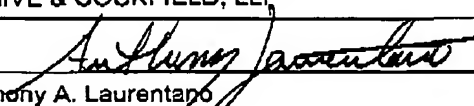
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

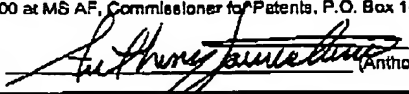
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  <small>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</small>	Application Number	10/758071-Conf. #5108
	Filing Date	January 14, 2004
	First Named Inventor	Masaru ODAJIMA
	Art Unit	1725
	Examiner Name	M. Aboagye
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	TOW-059

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Remarks</div>		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm Name	LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP		
Signature			
Printed name	Anthony A. Laurentano		
Date	May 22, 2006	Reg. No.	38,220

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office, facsimile no. (571) 273-8300 at MS AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.	
Date: May 22, 2006	Signature:  (Anthony A. Laurentano)

**RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER****MAY 22 2006**

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office, facsimile no. (571) 273-8300 at MS AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: May 22, 2006

Signature: 

(Anthony A. Laurentino)

Docket No.: TOW-059  
(PATENT)**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Masaru Odajima *et al.*

Application No.: 10/758071

Confirmation No.: 5108

Filed: January 14, 2004

Art Unit: 1725

For: METHOD OF AND APPARATUS FOR  
FRICTION STIR WELDING

Examiner: M. Aboagye

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116**

MS AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Office Action dated February 21, 2006, finally rejecting claims 1, 4, and 5, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 4 of this paper.